

What is claimed is:

- 1           1.     A method comprising:  
2                 presenting a user interface;  
3                 receiving user selection through the user interface pertaining to  
4 environment information of a target database system to extract; and  
5                 receiving the environment information extracted based on the user  
6 selection from the target database system.
- 1           2.     The method of claim 1, further comprising importing the environment  
2 information to a test system.
- 1           3.     The method of claim 2, further comprising emulating the target database  
2 system in the test system using the imported environment information.
- 1           4.     The method of claim 1, wherein presenting the user interface comprises  
2 presenting plural screens each containing at least a graphical user interface element that is  
3 user selectable.
- 1           5.     The method of claim 4, wherein presenting the screens comprises  
2 presenting a screen containing graphical user interface elements selectable by a user to  
3 select, for extraction, one of environment information associated with an entire database  
4 in the target database system and environment information associated with tables  
5 referenced by a query.
- 1           6.     The method of claim 1, wherein presenting the user interface comprises  
2 presenting user-selectable options corresponding to types of environment information to  
3 extract from the target database system.
- 1           7.     The method of claim 6, wherein presenting the user-selectable options  
2 comprises presenting options corresponding to statistics information and cost parameters.

1           8.     The method of claim 7, wherein presenting the user-selectable options  
2 comprises presenting a further option corresponding to data relating to definitions of  
3 relations.

1           9.     The method of claim 8, wherein presenting the user-selectable options  
2 comprises presenting a further option corresponding to samples associated with access  
3 modules.

1           10.    The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying the environment  
2 information in the user interface.

1           11.    The method of claim 10, wherein presenting the user interface comprises  
2 providing a user-selectable element that when activated enables editing of the  
3 environment information.

1           12.    The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the received  
2 environment information in plural files.

1           13.    The method of claim 12, wherein presenting a user-selectable element that  
2 when activated causes the files to be combined.

1           14.    A system comprising:  
2                   a processor;  
3                   a display; and  
4                   software executable on the processor to present a user interface in the  
5 display,  
6                   the user interface comprising user-selectable elements to indicate  
7 environment information to export from a target database system.

1           15.    The system of claim 14, wherein the software is executable on the  
2 processor to export the environment information from the target database system.

1           16.    The system of claim 14, wherein the user interface comprises plural  
2 screens containing the user-selectable elements.

1           17.    The system of claim 16, wherein one of the plural screens contains a first  
2 user-selectable element to indicate extraction of environment information associated with  
3 a database of the target database system.

1           18.    The system of claim 17, wherein another one of the plural screens contains  
2 a second user-selectable element to indicate extraction of environment information  
3 associated with one or more tables associated with a query in the target database system.

1           19.    The system of claim 18, wherein the other one of the plural screens  
2 comprises a query selection element to select one or plural queries for which environment  
3 information is to be extracted.

1           20.    The system of claim 19, wherein the query selection element enables  
2 selection of the one or plural queries from a file.

1           21.    The system of claim 19, wherein the query selection element enables  
2 selection of the one or more plural queries from a query capture database.

1           22.    The system of claim 14, wherein the user-selectable elements indicate one  
2 or more types of the environment information to export.

1           23.    The system of claim 22, wherein the one or more types of the environment  
2 information comprises one or more of the following: statistics information, cost  
3 information, information pertaining to definition of relations, and samples of data  
4 demographics of access modules in the target database system.

1           24.    The system of claim 14, wherein the user-selectable elements comprise an  
2 element to enable editing of the environment information.

1           25.     The system of claim 24, wherein the user-selectable elements further  
2     comprise another element to undo editing of the environment information.

1           26.     The system of claim 24, wherein the software is executable to display the  
2     environment information in the display.

1           27.     The system of claim 14, wherein the software is executable to export the  
2     environment information from the target database system and subsequently to import the  
3     environment information to a test system.

1           28.     An article comprising at least one storage medium containing instructions  
2     that when executed cause a system to:  
3                 present a user interface;  
4                 receive user selection made in the user interface indicating environment  
5     information to extract from a target database system; and  
6                 receive the environment information extracted based on the user selection  
7     from the target database system.

1           29.     The article of claim 28, wherein the instructions when executed cause the  
2     system to import the environment information to a test system.

1           30.     The article of claim 28, wherein the instructions when executed cause the  
2     system to present the user interface by presenting plural screens having user-selectable  
3     elements.

1           31.     The article of claim 30, wherein the instructions when executed cause the  
2     system to receive activation of the user-selectable elements to select types of environment  
3     information to extract.